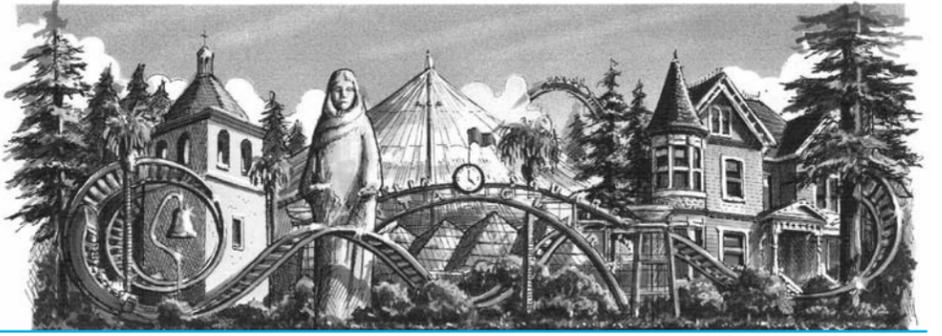




## INSIDE SANTA CLARA

QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER FOR  
CITY OF SANTA CLARA  
RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES

WINTER 2008



## Are you worried about losing your home?

Although home values in Santa Clara are not plummeting as they have in some California cities, local homeowners are not immune to the foreclosure woes that are affecting people throughout the U.S. During the three-month period of June through August 2008, Santa Clara was averaging 22 foreclosures per month, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that 400-500 current mortgages in the City are a risk of foreclosure in the next 18 months.

Here are some of the most common questions and answers about foreclosures.

### What is "foreclosure"?



The foreclosure process actually consists of a series of steps, which ultimately can lead to a bank or new owner taking ownership of your home. The first step is "Delinquency," which means the homeowner is one or more months behind in mortgage payments or other associated payments such as property taxes. At this stage, the formal

foreclosure process has not begun. Before starting the formal process, the lender mails a Notice of Intent or Notice of Acceleration to the delinquent owners. Under a new state law, SB 1137, a lender cannot move to the formal foreclosure process until the lender has contacted the homeowner and spent at least 30 days attempting to negotiate a resolution of the delinquency issues.

After at least 30 days have passed, and after making an effort to negotiate, the lender files a "Notice of Default" at the office of the county recorder. This step begins the formal foreclosure process. The Notice of

*(continued on page 3)*

## City Library rates high in U.S.

Santa Clara City Library has again ranked third among the 332 libraries nationally that serve a population of 100,000 - 249,999, according to the annual Hennen's American Public Library Ratings. Ratings are based on many factors taken from data reported to state libraries including circulation, staffing, materials, reference services, funding levels and other statistical information. Only two libraries in California ranked among the top libraries in the country. The other was Santa Clara County Library. For City library programs, see pages 5, 6 and 9.

## Progress continues on General Plan update

Work continues on the General Plan update, with lots of input from the community through survey forms and attendance at community workshops. The next scheduled meeting is the General Plan Steering Committee meeting on Dec. 11, 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The public can view working papers and other reports prepared to date on the website at [www.santaclaragp.com](http://www.santaclaragp.com) and at the Library and Planning Department office. More details about progress on the update will be included in the March 2009 issue of *Inside Santa Clara*.

One question that has come up frequently is a request for more information about the Housing Element. What is it? How does it relate to the General Plan?

Every city and county in California is required to have a Housing Element and to update it every five years. It is one of seven required elements in a General Plan.

Regional agencies – such as the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) in Santa Clara's case – estimate housing needs for jurisdictions within their region. Each city and county is allocated a specific number of units at varying household income levels. Then local governments must assess the existing housing stock, compare it to their regional housing allocations, and develop policies to meet these housing goals. Housing elements are prepared to meet state law for certification from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Comments about the General Plan Update and questions may be directed to Doug Handerson, project planner, at 615-2450, by mail to him at the City Planning Department, 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or by email to [dhanderson@santaclara.ca.gov](mailto:dhanderson@santaclara.ca.gov).

## Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony set for Friday, December 5



Feel the spirit of an old fashioned small town Christmas! The City of Santa Clara will celebrate its annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. This celebration of lights and music includes entertainment, the arrival of Santa Claus aboard a horse-drawn carriage, and cookies for the kids! The free event is open to the public, and will take place at the corner of Civic Center Drive and Lincoln Avenue in Santa Clara. Remember to bring a canned food item for Second Harvest Food Bank. Call 615-3170 for further information.

## Wave to Teddy!

If you blink as you pass by the City of Santa Clara's holiday tree in Civic Center, you might miss a tradition that is older than most City residents. Starting the night of the Holiday Tree Lighting on December 5, a stuffed bear will be perched just below the star of lights at the top of the tree, as he has each December since 1911. Teddy was once the beloved toy of Alice Dixon Hillis whose father was the utilities superintendent for the City. When Alice was just one year old, Mr. Dixon "borrowed" her bear to serve as an ornament on top of the City tree. Teddy has spent December on the Santa Clara holiday tree ever since.



## City Council Oath-of-Office Ceremony

The Oath-of-Office Ceremony for new and returning City Council Members, Chief of Police and City Clerk has been scheduled for the City Council meeting of Tuesday, December 9, at 7 p.m. The ceremony is open to the public and will be held in the Council Chambers. It will also be televised via the City's Cable Channel 15 and video streamed on the City's website. Please join us in welcoming our new and returning elected officials, and thanking outgoing officials.

INSIDE SANTA CLARA



## Electric rates to increase 3%

Rates for electricity will increase by 3 percent starting January 1, 2009. The increase is principally due to increased costs for power generated by natural gas. Natural gas powers the generators that provide approximately 35 percent of the electricity used in California.

Rates from the municipal Electric Utility, also known as Silicon Valley Power, remain among the lowest in the state, and customers will still pay about half what customers pay for electricity in neighboring cities supplied by PG&E.

One way to reduce electric bills is to take advantage of Silicon Valley Power's energy-saving appliance and insulation rebates, home energy audits, and financial assistance programs. Call 244-SAVE (7283) for more information.



## City of Santa Clara Code of Ethics and Values

Ethical  
Professional  
Service-Oriented  
Fiscally Responsible  
Organized  
Communicative  
Collaborative  
Progressive

Ethics Every Day: Making Ethical Values a Good Habit

## Holiday Schedule

Wed., Dec. 24	City Library closes at 5 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 25	City offices closed. No collection of garbage, Clean Green or recycling.
Fri., Dec. 26	Collection of garbage, Clean Green and recycling for customers normally serviced on Thursdays.
Sat., Dec. 27	Collection of garbage, Clean Green and recycling for customers normally serviced on Fridays.
Mon., Dec. 29	City Library closes at 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 31	City Library closes at 5 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 1	City offices closed. No collection of garbage, Clean Green or recycling.
Fri., Jan. 2	Collection of garbage, Clean Green and recycling for customers normally serviced on Thursdays.
Sat., Jan. 3	Collection of garbage, Clean Green and recycling for customers normally serviced on Fridays.



## Live and archived meetings available on website

The City of Santa Clara's website has been enhanced to include live and archived streaming video of City Council, Redevelopment Agency and Sports & Open Space Authority meetings.

From the City's website, [santaclaraca.gov](http://santaclaraca.gov), select "City Gov" and from the drop down menu, select "City Meetings - View Online." Archived meetings allow viewers to choose specific portions of meetings by clicking on selected agenda items. They can also perform keyword searches to view items of interest, or view by a selected meeting date. Support documents such as staff reports associated with related agenda items are also linked to the agendas.

## Safely dispose of old medicines

Do not flush prescription drugs down the toilet! Studies have found that prescription drugs are not completely filtered out when passing through the wastewater treatment plant and they can damage marine wildlife in San Francisco Bay.

To safely dispose of old medications, bring them along with other household hazardous wastes to a Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off site. To make an appointment, call 299-7300 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



## CITY OF SANTA CLARA QUARTERLY REPORT

Winter 2008

(delivered bulk mail to every residential and business address in Santa Clara)

### Santa Clara City Council\*

Patricia M. Mahan, Mayor  
Dominic J. Caserta, Council Member  
Will Kennedy, Council Member  
Patrick Kolstad, Council Member  
Joe Kornder, Council Member  
Jamie McLeod, Council Member  
Kevin Moore, Council Member

Jennifer Sparacino, City Manager  
Rod Diridon, Jr., City Clerk/City Auditor  
Helene Leichter, City Attorney

[www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov)

### Quarterly Report Inquiries:

Editor: Carol McCarthy  
City Hall, 1500 Warburton Avenue  
Santa Clara, CA 95050  
(408) 615-2210

### City Goals and Priorities 2007-2009

The City Council priority is to focus on successful completion of existing City projects, postpone new City projects and proposals, and operate within Council-adopted budget principles and priorities, with the goal of guiding the City successfully to economic recovery. (The complete Council Principles and Priorities 2007-09 can be found on the City website at

[www.santaclaraca.gov/city\\_gov/city\\_gov\\_council\\_adopted\\_goals.html](http://www.santaclaraca.gov/city_gov/city_gov_council_adopted_goals.html))

### City Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Santa Clara is to promote a living and working environment that allows for the best quality of life by serving the community with resourceful, efficient, progressive and professional leadership.  
- Adopted by Council action, July 25, 1989 -

\* This newspaper went to press before certification of the Nov. 4, 2008 municipal election by the County Registrar of Voters. Information on newly elected municipal officials, if available, can be found on the City's website at [www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov).



## Public Meetings - City Hall

Board of Library Trustees*	1st Monday	7:00 pm
Citizens Advisory Committee	4th Monday	7:00 pm
City Council	Two Tuesdays per month	7:00 pm
Civil Service Commission	2nd Monday	7:00 pm
Cultural Advisory Commission	1st Monday	7:30 pm
Historical & Landmarks Commission	1st Thursday	7:00 pm
International Exchange Commission	1st Tuesday	7:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission	3rd Tuesday	7:00 pm
Planning Commission	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:00 pm
Senior Advisory Commission**	4th Monday	10:00 am
Youth Commission (during the school year)***	2nd Tuesday	6:00 pm

Some commissions/committees meet monthly and others meet semi-monthly. Agendas for City Council, Board and Commission meetings are posted at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, the Central Park Library and Mission Library, and on the City website, at least 3 days before the listed meeting. Complete agenda packets with back-up reports for City Council meetings are available at either City Library beginning Saturday before the Tuesday meetings, or at the City Clerk's Office on weekdays. The City website also allows for the viewing of Agenda Reports online, at [santaclaraca.gov/calendarcm\\_cur.html](http://santaclaraca.gov/calendarcm_cur.html).

\* Meeting is at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road

\*\* Meeting is at the Senior Center, 1303 Fremont Street

\*\*\* Meeting is at Teen Center, 2446 Cabrillo Avenue

Online schedule: [www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov)

Dates and times may vary. Call (408) 615-2220 for information.



## SPOTLIGHT ON CITY BOARD, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

### ADA Committee meets Dec. 8

The City of Santa Clara Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Committee will hold its joint meeting with the City Staff ADA Compliance Committee on Monday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. For meeting location, contact the Engineering Department at 615-3000 or watch for a notice on Cable Channel 15.

The ADA Advisory Committee is composed of representatives from the community, both individuals and organizations such as Hearing Loss Association of America and the Adult Independence Development Center. Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings and participate in the various accessibility issues discussed.

### Three great opportunities for teens

Santa Clara teens are invited to apply for the Youth Commission, a scholarship, or a leadership training program. Pursue one, two, or all three!

#### Youth Commission

Applications for the 2009-2010 terms on the Youth Commission will be available beginning Jan. 26 at the Teen Center, Community Recreation Center, Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, Central Park Library, City Hall, Santa Clara High School and Wilcox High School. You must be a resident of Santa Clara between the ages of 12 and 19.

The application, along with letter of recommendation, must be returned to the Teen Center no later than Friday, March 27, at 5:30 p.m. Oral interviews will be conducted on Saturday, April 25; no exceptions will be made for the interview date.

If you have questions about the Youth Commission or the application process, contact Jennifer Herb at 615-3740.

#### Scholarships

Community Service scholarships are available to Santa Clara residents who are high school juniors and graduating seniors, to help offset the costs of college. Last year, the City of Santa Clara Youth Commission gave away \$2,000 in scholarships.

Applications are available beginning Jan. 26 at the Teen Center, Community Recreation Center, Santa Clara High School, Wilcox High School, Central Park Library and City Hall. You must have a minimum 2.5 grade point average to be eligible.

The application and essay must be returned to the Teen Center no later than Friday, March 27, at 5:30 p.m. Oral interviews will be conducted on Saturday, April 25; no exceptions will be made for the interview date.

If you have questions about the Youth Commission Scholarship or the application process, contact Jennifer Herb at 615-3740.

#### Leadership training

Applications for the 2009 Leader in Training Experience (L.I.T.E) will be available on Wednesday, Feb. 11. The L.I.T.E program is a great opportunity for teens ages 14-16 to develop leadership skills, earn community service hours, and learn what goes on 'behind the scenes' of a parks and recreation program.

Applicants chosen for the L.I.T.E program will volunteer at one of our summer day camps, where they will assist recreation staff in leading activities, songs, arts and crafts projects, and more. Leaders In Training are required to commit to a week of in-service during the beginning of June and two weeks volunteering at a day camp site between June 22 and August 14.

L.I.T.E applications will be available at the Teen Center, Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, Community Recreation Center and City Libraries. Deadline for applications is 6 p.m., Monday, April 13, mailed or delivered to the Teen Center, 2446 Cabrillo Ave.

For more information, call the Teen Center at 615-3740.

## Foreclosure

(continued from page 1)

Default gives the homeowner 90 days to cure the delinquent amount due, which is listed in the Notice. Beginning as of September 1, 2008, the Notice must include a declaration describing the lender's efforts to negotiate with the homeowner during the prior 30 days.

The final step is the "Trustee Sale" held at least 20 days after the 90-day grace period in the Notice of Default has expired. The property will be auctioned at the time and date noticed for the sale, and if there is no buyer, the lender will take ownership of the property at that time. Once the trustee sale has been completed, the homeowner can be evicted after being given a 3-day written notice to vacate the property. Tenants living in the property at the time of the trustee sale must be given a 60-day written notice to vacate. In practice, many banks are offering a "cash for keys" settlement to the owner or tenant in exchange for a voluntary departure.

### What steps should be taken to avoid foreclosure?

A homeowner contacted about a delinquency or default should immediately respond. Do not avoid phone calls or ignore correspondence. In order to receive consideration for a modification or other type of "workout," the homeowner will need to make full financial disclosure, produce financial records, and prepare a letter for the lender explaining the hardship that is causing the delinquency.

Homeowners can seek help from a HUD certified housing counseling agency or other non-profit with foreclosure prevention expertise. These agencies provide free counseling help, and, when appropriate, will contact the lender on behalf of the owner. Everyone should beware of "rescue scams" that require signing over ownership or which charge up-front, non-refundable fees, sometimes thousands of dollars, for promises of help. In most cases, these companies never produce any results. The City of Santa Clara funds Project Sentinel to provide Mortgage Delinquency Counseling to City residents.

### What kinds of options or workouts are available to homeowners to avoid foreclosure?

Depending on the specific lender and the financial stability of the homeowner, it may be possible to negotiate various arrangements such as a loan modification, forbearance agreement or reverse mortgage. There are other alternatives such as a short sale or deed-in-lieu. New government programs such as the Hope for Homeowners Program are frequently being announced and implemented. These provide additional options for modifications or new loans, but only if the homeowner meets the specific requirements of each program. Settlements with specific lenders such as Countrywide and Indymac are also being implemented, with work out options in some cases and foreclosures freezes in some cases.

The various counseling programs try to stay current with all the new programs, and with the change in ownership among the banks and lenders, but some programs are so new that the full details may not yet have been developed or disclosed.

### What resources are available for more information?

Local HUD counseling agencies in Santa Clara County providing free counseling include:

- Project Sentinel, 720-9888, [www.housing.org](http://www.housing.org)
- Neighborhood Housing Services of Silicon Valley, 279-2600, [info@nhssv.org](mailto:info@nhssv.org)
- Consumer Credit Counseling Service, 800-540-2227, [www.gotdebt.org](http://www.gotdebt.org)

### Other resources include:

- US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development – 800-669-9777, [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)
- Fair Housing Law Project – 280-2435
- Santa Clara County District Attorney (Real Estate Fraud Unit) – 792-2639
- Don't Borrow Trouble Silicon Valley – 283-1284

### General foreclosure information is available online at:

- Public Interest Clearinghouse website: [www.foreclosureinfoca.org](http://www.foreclosureinfoca.org)

## 2008 Annual Report/2009 City Calendar available soon

Santa Clara's 2008 Annual Report/2009 City Calendar will be distributed by mail to all residents in December. In keeping with the Council's 2007-2009 Principles and Priorities, the content focuses on the significant accomplishments the City has made in the past year as well as planning for the community's future. A suggestion card on the back of the calendar gives residents and businesses a convenient opportunity to submit ideas on improving City services, or to express a compliment about services they enjoy.

**Happy Holidays**  
to all from the City of Santa Clara!



# The Holiday Season — a time for fun, a time to be safe

## Nominate the best holiday decorations

**December 1-15**

Nominations for the annual Holiday Outdoor Decorations Contest will be accepted Dec. 1-15. Decorate the exterior of your home in cheerful, colorful holiday décor and talk to your neighbors about doing the same. Nominate yourself, your neighbor, or one of the brightly lit homes or businesses you've seen around the City. Nominations for best outdoor decorations in four categories (residential, business, neighborhood, and best tree) will be evaluated by a team of judges on Tuesday, Dec. 16. Winners will be announced the week of Dec. 22. Check the City's website at [www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov) for the list of winners along with the full list of entrants in convenient driving order. Winners will be acknowledged at a City Council meeting in early January 2009. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at 615-2210.

## Historic holiday home tour

**December 5 & 6**

The 30th annual Santa Clara Historic Home Tour is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 5, 6-10 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6, from 12 noon-5 p.m. The Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara sponsors the tour with the assistance of the Old Quad Residents' Association for the benefit of historic preservation projects and non-profit groups in Santa Clara.



**Madison Street Inn**

This year's tour will feature four private residences – the **Perry House**, a 1920s Norman Cottage once owned by an assistant Santa Clara police chief who retired to become a prize-winning camellia grower; the **Alice Hare House**, an 1895 Queen Anne Cottage once owned by a noted female photographer who was also a founding member of the Santa Clara Woman's Club; the **Gil House**, an 1892 Queen Anne once owned by a woman who lived to be 106 and spent more than 90 of those years in Santa Clara; and the **Avina House**, a circa 1912 Craftsman Bungalow. The **Madison Street Inn**, an 1890 Queen Ann Cottage which has operated as a charming and popular Bed & Breakfast for the last 20 years will also be on the tour. The **Zanger House**, an 1890 Italianate Victorian moved from its original location in San Jose to Santa Clara in 1995, will have one room only open to serve as the stop for tour refreshments and an opportunity drawing which will benefit the Santa Clara Arts & Historical Consortium.

Advance tickets are \$25 General Admission, \$20 Seniors (60+) and Children (6-12). Tickets may be purchased at City Lights Espresso, 1171 Homestead Road at Jackson Street, across from the Santa Clara Main Post Office. If still available, tickets may be purchased during the tour for \$30 at the Madison Street Inn, 1390 Madison St. This event is usually a sell-out. No children under the age of 6 will be admitted. Call the Historic Preservation Society's Harris-Lass Museum Message Line for further information at 249-7905 or visit the tour website [sc-hometour.com](http://sc-hometour.com).

## Mission City Opera holiday concert

**December 7**

A performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's first opera written and produced for television, "Amahl and the Night Visitors," is scheduled for Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. at the Mission City Center for Performing Arts, 3250 Monroe St. For tickets and information, visit [www.missioncityopera.org](http://www.missioncityopera.org).

## Sister Cities holiday potluck

**December 7**

Santa Clara Sister Cities Association annual Holiday Potluck will be held at the Santa Clara Senior Center, Sunday, Dec. 7, beginning at 5 p.m. The event is open to the public and provides an opportunity to review the year's accomplishments and thank the community for its support. For more information, contact Debi Davis at 244-7551 or check the website at [www.santaclarasistercities.org](http://www.santaclarasistercities.org). See page 6 for more Sister Cities events.

## Holiday Train stops in Santa Clara

**December 7**

The 2008 Caltrain Holiday Train will make its annual appearance in the Bay Area during the weekend of December 6-7. Decorated with more than 40,000 lights, the Caltrain Holiday Train will visit nine stations along the Peninsula between San Francisco and Santa Clara over two weekend nights. It will stop at the historic Santa Clara Railroad Depot, across the street from Santa Clara University, on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 8:05 p.m., for a 20-minute show.



This free, family-oriented event draws thousands of visitors to train stations every year for a chance to sing along with live holiday music and meet Santa and Mrs. Claus and other holiday favorites, including Rudolph and Frosty. Thanks to the South Bay Historical Railroad Society, the Railroad Museum will also be open that evening.

Visitors are encouraged to bring new, unwrapped toys and books to drop into toy barrels at stations. Thousands of toys and books have been donated to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program and the Salvation Army, as a result of the Caltrain Holiday Train.

The Caltrain Holiday Train is not a passenger train. Visitors are invited to visit the stations and view the Holiday Train show, but are not permitted to board or ride on the train.

## Santa Clara Chorale presents "Comfort and Joy"

**December 12 & 14**

The Santa Clara Chorale will ring in the holidays with its annual concert, *Comfort and Joy*, featuring all of the Christmas favorites, on Friday, Dec. 12 and Sunday, Dec. 14 at Mission Santa Clara. This year's performance includes sophisticated and fun choral arrangements of old favorites, audience caroling, and exquisite harp music by guest artist, Ruthanne Adams.



The Santa Clara Chorale, founded in 1963, provides a wide range of choral music programs to South Bay communities. During its history, the Chorale has performed under the baton of Sir David Willcocks at Coventry Cathedral in England and Keith Lockhart of the Boston Pops Orchestra, at Carnegie Hall in New York City, Musikverein in Vienna, and the New Opera House in Tel Aviv. The year marks the seventh successful year under the leadership of Artistic Director, Maestro Thomas Colohan.

Tickets range from \$10 to \$25. For further information about this performance, as well as future performances of the 2008-2009 season, call 535-8636 or visit the website, [www.scc.org](http://www.scc.org).

## QUICK CALENDAR

Descriptions for all Winter events listed below are on pages 4 through 7.

### Nominate the best holiday decorations

**December 1-15**

### Historic holiday home tour

**December 5 & 6**

### Mission City Opera holiday concert

**December 7**

### Sister Cities holiday potluck

**December 7**

### Holiday Train stops in Santa Clara

**December 7**

### Santa Clara Chorale presents "Comfort and Joy"

**December 12 & 14**

### Santa Clara Ballet's Nutcracker

**December 13 & 14**

### Holiday puppet show

**December 16**

### Indoor sculpture exhibition

**January-July 2009**

### Exhibitions at de Saisset

**Early 2009**

### Police Activities League

**Early 2009**

### Miss Santa Clara Competition

**January 10**

### Book Sales

**January 17 & February 21**

### Genealogy Programs

**January 20 & February 17**

### Santa Clara Players

**January 23 through February 14**

### Read Santa Clara Tutor Orientations

**January 27, 15 or February 26**

### Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Dinner

**January 30**

### More Sister Cities Events

**February 6, March 13**

### The Marriage of Figaro

**February 20, 22 & 27, March 1**

### 68th Annual Camellia Show

**March 7 & 8**

### SHOWTIME '09

**March 13, 14 & 15**

(continued on next page)



## Holiday (continued from page 4)

### Santa Clara Ballet's Nutcracker December 13 & 14



Santa Clara Ballet presents the 35th annual "Nutcracker" on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 2 and 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 14, at 1 and 5 p.m. at the Santa Clara Convention Center Theater, 5001 Great America Parkway.

This annual production of Benjamin Reyes' full-length,

traditional version of the ballet is a holiday favorite in the community. Artistic Director Josefa Villanueva will spotlight young dancers and pre-professional students from the Santa Clara Ballet School and other schools throughout the Bay Area. Guest artists will perform in the leading roles.

For more information, call 881-0879 or visit [www.santaclaraballet.org](http://www.santaclaraballet.org).

### Holiday puppet show

**December 16**

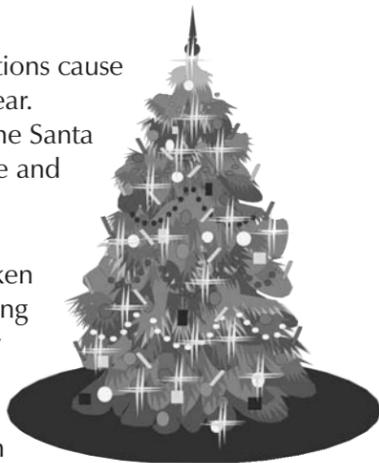
P&T Puppet Theatre presents "The Elves and the Shoemaker," a Grimm's fairy tale complete with Frosty the Snowman, Grinny the Green-nosed Reindeer, and Jack Frost on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Redwood Room of the Central Park Library. Arrive early—hands will be stamped for entry beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Services area. Doors will be closed when the room reaches capacity or the program begins. No one will be admitted late. This program for ages 4 and older only.

## Holidays can increase risk of a household fire

Christmas trees, candles and holiday decorations cause hundreds of household fires in the U.S. each year. Following these simple safety guidelines from the Santa Clara Fire Department will help to ensure a safe and happy holiday season.

### Christmas trees

Special fire safety precautions need to be taken when keeping a live tree in the house. A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases.



#### 1. Selecting the tree

- Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut.
- The trunk should be sticky to the touch.
- Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

#### 2. Caring for the tree

- Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.
- Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

#### 3. Disposing of the tree

- Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly. The best way is through the City's tree recycling program.

### Holiday lights

#### 1. Inspect the lights

- Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear.
- Use only holiday lighting that has been listed by an approved testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).

#### 2. Don't overload electrical outlets

- Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe.

## Holiday Crime Prevention Tips

### Shopping Safety

- Lock packages in the trunk.
- Don't overload yourself with packages.
- If you must shop in the evening, shop with a friend.
- Park in well-lighted areas, as close as possible to store entrances. Be particularly aware of persons in the parking lot, especially near your car.
- Lock your car and make sure the windows are closed.
- Carry only the charge cards you will need. Don't carry or flash large sums of cash.
- Carry your purse next to your body with the purse flap against you. Men should carry their wallets in front or inside pockets.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you. Don't allow your attention to become distracted from your purse or packages.
- Teach children to go to a store clerk or security guard and ask for help if you become separated in a store or shopping mall.
- Don't hesitate to notify store security if you see suspicious activity.
- If you have to wait for a ride, wait in a busy, well-lighted place.
- If you are a victim of a crime, report it to police immediately.



### Home Safety

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even if you will only be gone for a minute.
- Don't put large displays of holiday gifts in view of your windows or doors.
- When going on trips or out for evenings, use automatic timers to turn indoor lights on and off to make it appear you are home.
- Immediately after the holidays, mark new gifts with your California Driver's License or ID number. Engravers are available at the Central Park Library for check out.
- Don't advertise the gifts you received by putting the boxes out on trash day. Break the boxes down and bundle them for recycling with the product name on the inside of the bundles. Or take the boxes to a recycling station yourself, such as Stevens Creek Disposal and Recycling, which has a free drop-off for Santa Clara residents at their 650 Martin Ave. facility, 970-5100.



### Traveling

- Use automatic timers for lights in your home.
- Stop mail and newspaper delivery.
- Ask neighbors to look after your home.
- The Santa Clara Police Department wishes you a safe and joyful holiday season!

- Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet.
- Make sure to periodically check the wires — they should not be warm to the touch.
- Do not leave holiday lights on unattended.

### Candles

#### 1. Candles can be dangerous

- If you do use them, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked over.
- Never leave candles burning unattended.

#### 2. Never put lit candles on a tree

- Do not go near a holiday tree with an open flame — candles, lighters or matches.



No matter what season it is, working smoke detectors installed on every level of your home and a home fire escape plan nearly triple your chances of surviving a fire. Test the smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least once a year. All family members should know how to call 9-1-1. If your house is on fire, get out of the house immediately and use a neighbor's phone to call for help.



Have at least two ways out of each bedroom, and designate a meeting place outside. Practice your home escape plan periodically.

The Santa Clara Fire Department wishes you and your family a safe holiday season and New Year!

**2009 Calendar events are on the next page.**



# Mark these events in your 2009 calendars!

## Indoor Sculpture Exhibition

January-July



The fifth Biennial Indoor Sculpture Exhibition, sponsored by the City of Santa Clara's Cultural Advisory Commission, runs from January through July, 2009. This juried exhibition will feature sculptures from artists throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Cultural Advisory Commission will host an opening reception for the sculpture exhibition at City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave., from 2 p.m. to

4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24. The reception will feature free entertainment and refreshments, and an opportunity to meet the artists whose works are on display. For more information, contact Pam Morrison in the City Manager's Office at 615-2219.

## Exhibitions at de Saisset

Early 2009

Three new winter exhibitions will be on display in early 2009 at the de Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University. "Natural Blunders" features artists and their subjects from the natural world of plants and animals, showcasing the darker side of nature by highlighting the increasing control exerted by humans. The resulting works encourage us to consider our own relationship with the natural world and to ponder the potential implications of recent explorations into genetic testing and cloning. "Futurefarmers" is a site-specific installation created by the artist group Futurefarmers in collaboration with students at Santa Clara University. Futurefarmers is dedicated to environmental issues and sustainability. "Flora and Fauna from the de Saisset Museum's Permanent Collection" will feature works that explore animals and nature, with the artwork selected by professors from SCU's Biology Department who will write extended labels for those works. The free museum is located at 500 El Camino Real, and is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 554-4528 or visit [www.scu.edu](http://www.scu.edu).

## Police Activities League

Early 2009

A wide variety of youth sports is offered year-round to young people in Santa Clara through the Police Activities League. Registration begins in January for softball and soccer sign-ups start in April. Wrestling is offered February through April at Cabrillo Middle School, which is also the site of the ongoing judo program. For more information, contact Officer Rob Paolinetti at 615-4880.

## Miss Santa Clara Competition

January 10

The Miss Santa Clara Competition on Jan. 10, an official preliminary of the Miss California and Miss America Programs, will showcase the talents and accomplishments of local college, high school and middle school students in our community. Two competitions will be held at the Mission City Center for the Performing Arts, 3250 Monroe St. – the Miss Santa Clara Competition for women ages 17-24, starting at 7 p.m. and the Santa Clara's Outstanding Teen Competition for girls ages 13-16, starting at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 in advance. If available, tickets will be sold at the door.

In the "Miss" competition, contestants will compete in Interview, Talent, On-Stage Question, Swimsuit/Physical Fitness and Evening Wear categories. In the "Teen" competition, contestants will compete in Interview, Talent, On-Stage Question, Physical Fitness and Evening Wear. More than \$15,000 in educational scholarships will be awarded, with every contestant guaranteed a minimum scholarship.

To purchase tickets in advance, contact Stephanie Schutt, at 761-2808 or by email at [stephanie\\_schutt@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanie_schutt@yahoo.com). For more information, go to the Miss Santa Clara website – [www.missantaclara.org](http://www.missantaclara.org).



*Erin Bolhorst, Miss Santa Clara 2008, and graduate of Wilcox High School*

## Read Santa Clara Tutor Orientations

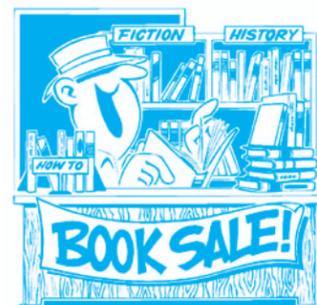
January 15, 27 or February 26

Share your gift of reading with others! If you have two hours a week to spare for the next six months and have the patience and dedication to be a volunteer tutor, Read Santa Clara needs you. To learn more about the program, attend one of the following orientation sessions for literacy volunteers: Thursday, Jan. 15; Tuesday, Jan. 27; or Thursday, Feb. 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Mission Library Family Reading Center. No prior teaching experience is necessary. Volunteers are provided 14 hours of training before they begin to tutor. Call 615-2956 or email [readsantaclara@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:readsantaclara@santaclaraca.gov) for details.

## Book Sales

January 17 & February 21

Shop for great fiction and nonfiction books, sold at the low price of \$5 per grocery bag, at book sales on Saturday, Jan. 17 and Feb. 21. There are thousands of books to choose from, and proceeds benefit the Library. The Foundation & Friends of the Santa Clara City Library Book Sale is held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Cedar Room of the Central Park Library. For more information call 615-2987.



## Genealogy Programs

January 20, February 17

Richard Ferman of the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society will discuss and demonstrate the new genealogy website [Footnote.com](http://Footnote.com) on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. This online resource features documents relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, U.S. Presidents, historical newspapers, and naturalization documents.

Cath Madden Trindle, a certified genealogist who earned a Certificate of European Research from BYU, will present a program on Irish Family Research on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. Learn about Irish records, websites and more.

Both free public programs will be held in the Central Park Library and are sponsored by the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society. For more information, call 615-2909. For more library programs, see page 9.

## Santa Clara Players

January 23 through February 14

The 47th season of the Santa Clara Players continues with "The Kitchen Witches" by Caroline Smith, a comedy about cooking show hostesses who have hated each other for 30 years, but end up on the same TV show. The show runs Jan. 23 through Feb. 14, with an 8 p.m. curtain time on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. The first Saturday and all Sunday performances are matinees at 2:30 p.m.; there are no evening performances on the first Saturday or any Sunday. Tickets are \$18 for the champagne opening night and \$15 for all other performances. Discounts for seniors and students are available. For tickets and information on a single play or season tickets, call 248-7993 or visit [www.scplayers.org](http://www.scplayers.org). The Players can also put on a short one-act play to entertain your business, group or party. See page 7 for more information.

## Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Dinner

January 30

On Friday, Jan. 30, the Youth Commission will host its second annual Benefit Bingo Spaghetti Dinner charity event for a local nonprofit organization. This fundraiser, held at the Santa Clara Senior Center from 5-9 p.m. will consist of a spaghetti dinner, bingo with prizes and raffle prizes. All ages are welcome. Call 615-3740 for more information.



## More Sister Cities Events

February 6, March 13

A gala reception for the 2008 Sister Cities International Showcase of Young Artists will be held Friday, Feb. 6, at the Triton Museum to launch a one-month display of the artwork of 20 finalists. Entries for the 2009 competition, with the theme "Path to Your Peace," are due by March 13.

*(continued on next page)*



## 2009 Events *(continued)*

For more information, contact Debbie Pavao at [dpavao.scsca@gmail.com](mailto:dpavao.scsca@gmail.com).

An international concert on March 14 is being co-sponsored by the Santa Clara Sister Cities Association and the San Jose Sister City group. The Ambassadors, the Santa Clara Honors Youth Symphony composed of middle and high school students under the direction of David Ladd Anderson, and The Gaukugeiken Band from Okayama, Japan, San Jose's sister city, will perform at Santa Clara University's Mayer Theatre. For more information, email Debi Davis at [debid56@comcast.net](mailto:debid56@comcast.net).

See page 4 for another Sister Cities event.

### **The Marriage of Figaro**

**February 20, 22, & 27, March 1**

Mission City Opera's presentation of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* is scheduled for Feb. 20 and 27 at 8 p.m., and Feb. 22 and March 1 at 3 p.m. at the Mission City Center for Performing Arts. For tickets and information, visit [www.missioncityopera.org](http://www.missioncityopera.org).



Mozart

### **68th Annual Camellia Show**

**March 7 & 8**

The 68th Annual Camellia Show, sponsored by the Santa Clara County Camellia Society and the City's Parks & Recreation Department, will be held on March 7 and 8 at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. Thousands of delicate blooms of different sizes and colors will delight your senses as you stroll through the displays. There is a camellia to fit any size garden or patio, and experts will be available at the show to help gardeners decide what camellia would be best for their yards, decks or terraces. The free show is open for viewing on Saturday, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., and on Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entries will be accepted Saturday, March 7, from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Novices and children are encouraged to enter their camellias. Camellia Society members will be on hand to help identify and place your entry. For more information, call 615-3080.



### **SHOWTIME '09**

**March 13, 14 & 15**

On March 13, 14, and 15, 2009, the Santa Clara Women's League is sponsoring "Showtime '09," the 27th annual production to raise funds for the Senior Center's Health and Wellness Program. This year's production will feature a thrilling, old-time melodrama and outstanding entertainment, filled with fun and opportunities to cheer heroes, boo and hiss villains and have an all-around good time! Performances start at 7 p.m. on March 13 and 14, and at 2 p.m. on March 15 at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. Tickets can be purchased from the Santa Clara Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St. For more information, go to [www.SantaClaraShowtime.net](http://www.SantaClaraShowtime.net) or call 615-3170.



Showtime's roots go back to the early 1980s when Santa Clara resident Cleo Stuckrath, concerned about the possible closure of the Senior Center's Health and Wellness Program, helped to establish the Women's League. She then wrote and produced the annual Showtime melodramas, starring local talent, to raise money in support of the health and wellness program.

### **Santa Clara Players will perform for your group**

The Santa Clara Players present one-act plays at community groups, hospitals, churches, business meetings, and social gatherings. Depending on scheduling availability, the performances can be morning, afternoon, or weekends. There is a small fee of \$50 to defray royalties and expenses. For more information about performances and booking, call Kathy Gutto at 370-6944.

## MCCF now accepting grant applications

The Mission City Community Fund is now accepting applications for the Spring 2009 grant funding cycle. Grant applications are available on the MCCF website at [missioncityfund.org](http://missioncityfund.org). Applications must be postmarked by January 30, 2009. Funding of approved grants will be distributed in April and May of 2009. All grant applications should be addressed to: Mission City Community Fund, Attn: Allocations Committee, P.O. Box 587, Santa Clara, CA 95052-0587.

Mission City Community Fund is a local non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the quality of life in the City of Santa Clara. An all volunteer board of directors manages a fund that has provided grants to dozens of non-profit and community organizations for more than two decades. Funding preference is given to eligible proposals demonstrating the most urgent need, and proposals that benefit residents, groups, and organizations serving the City of Santa Clara. Past grant recipients have included the Triton Museum of Art, Next Door-Solutions to Domestic Violence, the Santa Clara Senior Center, Senior Housing Solutions, YWCA Rape Crisis Counseling, Inn Vision, Project Hired, Santa Clara Players, Santa Clara Chorale, de Saisset Museum, Unity Care Group, Hope Services, the JW House at Kaiser Hospital, Santa Clara Library, Santa Clara Unified School District, Santa Clara Arts & Historical Consortium, Villa Montalvo, Leadership Santa Clara and many others. MCCF is an all volunteer organization; it has no paid staff. Many residents and businesses have contributed to MCCF through the years, allowing the fund to grow and become self sustaining. MCCF also receives community donations from the "Give A Little...Help A Lot" donation campaign through the municipal utility bill inserts.

For further information, see the website or email [allocations@missioncityfund.org](mailto:allocations@missioncityfund.org).

## City tree care



Trees provide neighborhoods with numerous advantages: beauty, oxygen, sound absorption, wind deflection, shade protection, air purification, increased real estate values, erosion control, and energy conservation. These are the reasons why Santa Clara has invested in planting street trees throughout the City. The City takes responsibility for planting, maintaining and removing (if necessary) City street trees, which are

placed in the property frontage within the City's right-of-way easement (usually the front yard of a residence). The property owner is responsible only for watering and fertilizing the tree. If a City street tree needs to be trimmed or is suspected to have disease problems, call the Street Department at 615-3080. Having a City street tree trimmed or removed by anyone other than City personnel is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, plus the cost of replacing the tree, as well as any associated administrative costs. The City appreciates the help of all residents in providing for the watering and fertilizing of these valuable community assets planted in front of their homes. If you don't have a street tree and would like to be placed on a list to obtain one, call 615-3080.

## Byington Steel Treating Inc. honored in Business Recognition Program

A long-time business enterprise in Santa Clara was honored recently by the City Council as part of the Business Recognition Program, a joint program of the City and the Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors



Bureau. The program acknowledges the valuable contributions made by all businesses to the quality of life in the community. Firm representatives Kathryn Byington (second from left), son Sean (third from left), and Rod Bravo (at right), accepted the recognition on behalf of the company. Steve Van Dorn (at left), President and Chief Executive Officer of the Santa Clara

*(continued on next page)*



## Youngsters invited to take the stage



*The Roberta Jones Junior Theatre celebrated its 40th anniversary with a production of the musical theater classic "Oliver!"*

Roberta Jones Junior Theatre offers opportunities for children and teens to learn about theatre arts, both behind-the-scenes and on stage.

In "Imagine Me!" classes, young people explore creativity through interactive storytelling and improvisational games. Participants gain self-confidence and learn to cooperate with others while stimulating their imaginations and enjoying physical exercise. "Imagine Me!" for ages 4-5 meets Wednesdays from 2:40-3:25 p.m., Jan. 21-March 18. "Imagine Me, Too!" for ages 6-8 meets Wednesdays from 3:30-4:20 p.m., Jan. 21-March 18. Both classes meet at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. The course fee is \$51 for residents of the City of Santa Clara, and \$66 for non-residents.

The spring musical production in 2009 will be the family favorite, "The Wizard of Oz." All children, ages 8-18, are invited to audition, and everyone who auditions will be cast in the show. Auditions are January 6 or 7, from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Rehearsals are Monday-Friday, 4:15-6:30 p.m., with some Saturday rehearsals. Not everyone needs to come to every rehearsal. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be provided after casting is complete.

Public performances are March 27, 28, April 3 and 4 at 7 p.m., March 29 and April 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for children and \$6 for adults. The course fee is \$51 for residents of the City of Santa Clara, and \$66 for non-residents. For more audition and ticket information, call Kevin Cornelius at 615-3161 or visit [www.RJJT.org](http://www.RJJT.org).

## Community volunteer extraordinaire truly inspires



In November, 2008, long time Santa Clara resident Emma Kaliterna was honored by the City Council as the second recipient of the prestigious "Those Who Inspire" community recognition award. Emma, a modest woman with a heart of gold, is a local business owner who illustrates the best of community activism. Since 1939, Emma has operated her own beauty salon in Santa Clara, in a building constructed by her husband, Mickey. It has been said that "Emma colors more than

people's hair - - she adds color to their lives. Once you sit in Emma's chair, you become a loyal friend - - a part of the family." Emma's working career began even earlier. She "cut cots" (apricots) when she was a 12-year-old, and then worked the canneries that were very much a part of the "Valley of Heart's Delight" and the City of Santa Clara in the early 1900s.

Philanthropy has long been a part of Emma's life. Through the decades, in opportunity drawings and in backyard fundraisers, Emma has raised more than \$100,000 to support such deserving causes as the Santa Clara Aquamaids, the Triton Museum of Art, the Santa Clara Vanguard, the Harris-Lass Historic Preserve, the Santa Clara Lions Club Blind Center, the Mission Library, Police and Fire Department causes, the disadvantaged, the needy, and educational projects including scholarships. She also served as a Council-appointed Cultural Advisory Commissioner for two full terms, from 1984 to 1992. During those eight years, along with her fellow Commissioners, Emma acted in an advisory capacity to the City Council in matters pertaining to the cultural enrichment and beautification of the City. She was a special advocate for anti-litter and anti-graffiti programs, and supported the early establishment of the Concerts in the Park series, as well as "artreach" to local schools.

Emma was the inaugural recipient of the Mission City Community Fund's prestigious Austen Warburton Community Service award for outstanding

*(continued on page 13)*

## Give A Little...Help A Lot

Do you enjoy music in a shady pavilion on balmy summer Sundays? Or beautiful artwork at public facilities for your viewing pleasure? Are you interested in Santa Clara's colorful agricultural past? Does a clean, litter-free and graffiti-free City make you proud of your community? Would you like to help local championship teams represent Santa Clara at national competitions? Can you lend a hand to residents in need of help with paying their utility bills? Approved by the City Council in 1990, the Give A Little...Help A Lot donation campaign provides a convenient method to support the above activities, which are specific non-profit programs in the City. The following community services are supported through this program:

**Art in Public Places** – a program to coordinate and augment the placement of art in the City of Santa Clara, and to promote its accessibility to the public

**Concerts in the Park** – a free summer concert series in Central Park Pavilion, featuring a variety of performances for public enjoyment

**Harris-Lass Historic Preserve** – a living history museum representative of the area's agricultural past

**Keep Santa Clara Clean** – an anti-litter, anti-graffiti program promoting a clean and healthy City environment

**Mission City Community Fund** – a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the quality of life in the City of Santa Clara

**Championship Team Trust Fund** – funding assistance for championship teams/individuals and sports affiliated groups to travel to state, national and international competition, representing the City of Santa Clara

**HELP your Neighbor** – emergency assistance with utility bill payments for Santa Clara residents who may be experiencing financial hardship

**Foundation & Friends of the Santa Clara City Library** – provides resources to expand and enhance the library's programs and services. The Santa Clara City Library Foundation receives contributions and conducts fundraising efforts on behalf of the Santa Clara City Library

**July 4th Fireworks** – contributions to help with the costs of the traditional fireworks display in Central Park on Independence Day.

The next time you are paying your utility bill by mail, you can enclose a donation in the amount of your choice, or just mail your donation check to: Give A Little...Help A Lot, City of Santa Clara, 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050. The donation must be made by separate check from your utility bill payment check, but both checks can be sent in the same envelope. Checks should be made payable to the City of Santa Clara and indicate the listed project(s) that you want to benefit from your donation.

If you have questions about the Give A Little...Help A Lot program, call 615-2210. Join others and help make a difference in your community!

## Byington *(continued from page 7)*

Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors Bureau, also made a presentation to the company.

Byington Steel Treating, Inc. was founded in Santa Clara in 1952 by Bill Byington, and has grown to become one of the largest heat-treating companies in the northwestern United States. The company is one of the few full-service heat-treating businesses serving Bay Area high tech, medical, aerospace, military and nuclear industries. The company and the Byington family are also known for their support of numerous nonprofit agencies and educational organizations. A proclamation and City tile were presented by the Mayor and City Council.

## Scholarships

*(continued from page 16)*

manage energy and power needs in the future. Up to three \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded and up to five technical tuition grants of \$2,000 each.

The \$5,000 scholarships are open to students attending a community or four-year college and majoring in field related to energy and power, such as engineering, technology and environmental science. The \$2,000 technical grants are available to individuals pursuing professional development in careers such as lineman, apprenticeship training programs and solar installers at technical schools or community colleges.

Applicants must be residents of the City of Santa Clara and a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, possess a high school diploma or be a high school senior, and be enrolled in a fully licensed and accredited community college, college or technical school.

Applications are available online at [www.siliconvalleypower.com/scholarship](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com/scholarship) and by calling 261-5036 starting Monday, Dec. 1, 2008.



# Library Update



## Free online homework help and tutoring

Homework problems? Come to the Library or log-in from home using a valid Santa Clara City library card and get free, unlimited online homework help! An expert tutor is only a few clicks away.

You chat real-time, one-on-one with a tutor using an instant messenger, and can share and mark up lessons and files on a "whiteboard." There are no session limits – ask questions and work together for 5 minutes, 15 minutes, or an hour.

*HelpNow* can provide tutoring for grades 3-12, including advance placement, in English/language arts, math (algebra I, algebra II, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus), science (biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science), and social studies.

*HelpNow* also offers a Writing Lab. Send your paper to a tutor and within 24 hours you will receive a response consisting of a critique and suggestions.

This service is supported by funding from the Foundation & Friends of Santa Clara City Library and, in part, by Library Services and Technology Act funds administered by the California State Library.

## Learn a language online

Is one of your New Year's resolutions to learn a new language? Santa Clara City Library now offers a web-based resource, *Mango Languages*, to learn to speak Brazilian, Portuguese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Russian and Spanish, as well as English as a second language (ESL).

Children and adults can learn to use this resource easily, and it can be accessed from the library or a home computer. The Library thanks the Foundation & Friends of Santa Clara City Library for funding *Mango Languages*.

## Silicon Valley Reads author comes to Santa Clara

KGO radio personality Brian Copeland, author of the Silicon Valley Reads 2009 book, *Not a Genuine Black Man: My Life as an Outsider*, will speak at the Central Park Library on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. To reserve a space for this free book talk, stop by the Reference Desk or call 615-2900. The Library thanks the Foundation & Friends of Santa Clara City Library for its support of this program.

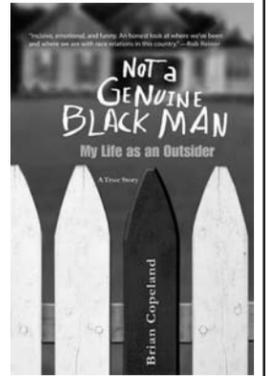


This funny and poignant memoir is about his growing up in one of the first African American families in San Leandro. His book will be discussed at free public events throughout Santa Clara County between January and March 2009.

For the first time, Silicon Valley Reads also is recommending two companion books for young readers, so families can discuss the themes together. *The Other Side*, by Jacqueline Woodson, has been selected for kindergarten through 3rd grade. *The Liberation of Gabriel King* by K. L. Going, is the book recommended for 4th-8th graders.

Silicon Valley Reads is co-sponsored by the Santa Clara County Office of Education, Santa Clara County Library, and the San Jose Public Library Foundation, with funding from community groups, and corporate and individual donors. The program's goals are "to promote reading and literacy, while building a sense of community through dialogue among widely diverse readers."

For more information visit [www.siliconvalleyreads.org](http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org).



## Parent education programs at the Library

A series of free parenting programs for adults only will be offered in December and January in the Redwood Room at the Central Park Library. Register at the Youth Services Desk or call 615-2916 to reserve a place.

- "Real Parents, Real Kids, Real Talk" – Dec. 8, 7-8:30 p.m. with parenting Coach Susan Stone Belton. Belton will share real examples and tools that work in raising toddlers to teens.
- "Is My Child Ready for Kindergarten?" – Jan. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. with Jean Wilson, parent educator and preschool teacher, who will identify areas of development, including emotional readiness, that are key in beginning school.
- "Exploring Preschool" – Jan. 28, 7-8:30 p.m. A panel of preschool representatives will discuss school philosophies and curricula.

## December book clubs for kids

Register at the Youth Services Desk or call 615-2916 to reserve a place for these free programs.

- December 17, 5-6 p.m., Cedar Room, Central Park Library, 5th-6th Grade Book Discussion: *My Side of the Mountain*, by Jean Craighead George. Space is limited; sign-ups begin December 1.
- December 18, 4-5 p.m., Cedar Room, 3rd-4th Grade Book Discussion: *Sheep*, by Valerie Hobbs. Space is limited; sign-ups begin December 1.

More library programs are found on pages 5 and 6.

## SVACA protects animals from people, and people from animals

By Dan Soszynski, SVACA Executive Director



Rescuing animals like Trinity, a Chihuahua with a badly broken leg, from a life of abuse, is a good example of what we do at the Silicon Valley

Animal Control Authority (SVACA) day in and day out. We received a call about Trinity from a concerned citizen who saw her being dragged down the sidewalk by children. Our officer responded and found that the dog was a recent addition to the family who decided to surrender the dog because they could not provide veterinary care.

Our medical team had to surgically remove Trinity's leg, and donations from SVACA's Animal Assistance Fund were used to cover surgical expenses. Happily, Trinity quickly recovered and was adopted into a loving home.

Our mission is to protect animals from people and people from animals. We take all reports of

abuse seriously, investigate them thoroughly, and hold violators accountable. At the same time, we're working to change old perceptions of animal sheltering.

At SVACA's state-of-the-art animal care center, our animal guests rest comfortably in real-life rooms, not cages or kennels. The homelike setting helps ease an animal's transition from our center into a family's household. Dogs are also exercised by staff and volunteers multiple times a day in our outdoor play area. Cats are socialized daily.

Our biggest challenge is not caring for the animals that come our way, but finding homes for them. As an "open door" shelter, we accept all animals regardless of how sick, injured, or aggressive they may be. Dogs may be with us for months and some cats have stayed with us for nearly a year before being adopted, but SVACA has been able to achieve the important goal of placing all adoptable animals.

We are also proactive in reducing the flow of animals into our center through our low-cost public spay and neuter clinic where cats can be altered for \$10 and dogs for \$30.

What can you do to help? Volunteer... become a foster parent... donate money or goods... adopt and encourage others to do the same... spay or neuter your own companion animals... always report abuse or neglect. Everyone has something to give, so please don't hesitate to get involved.

For more on what you can do to make a difference for the animals of our community, please contact SVACA at 764-0344, or visit [www.svaca.com](http://www.svaca.com) to learn more about our programs. Our center is located at 3370 Thomas Rd. in Santa Clara.

SVACA is a joint powers authority that provides animal care and control services to the cities of Santa Clara, Campbell and Monte Sereno. Adoption services and volunteer opportunities are open to all in the Bay Area.





## FAQ on compact fluorescent light bulbs



### Q: Why should I use compact fluorescent light bulbs?

They use less electricity, which saves on your electric bill and saves energy. A 23 watt compact fluorescent light bulb produces an equivalent of a 100 watt incandescent bulb and can last as much as 20 times longer. Prices of compact fluorescent light bulbs have decreased in the last year.

### Q: Should a fluorescent light be turned off when leaving a room?

In order to save energy, it is recommended that all lights, no matter what type of bulbs they use, be turned off if you will be gone from a room for more than 15 minutes.

### Q: Do compact fluorescent bulbs contain mercury?

Yes, they contain a small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing –an average of about 4 milligrams—about the amount that would cover the tip of a ball point pen. In comparison, a mercury thermometer contains about 500 milligrams of mercury. Mercury is essential for the compact fluorescent bulb to operate; no mercury is released when the bulb is unbroken or in use.

### Q: What precautions should be taken when using compact fluorescent light bulbs?

Be careful when removing the bulb from its packaging, installing it, or removing it. Always screw and unscrew the bulb by its base and don't forcefully twist the bulb into a socket. If a bulb breaks, carefully clean up and dispose of the broken bulb. The Environmental Protection Agency recommends first opening a window and leaving the room for at least 15 minutes. Wearing rubber gloves, carefully scoop up the glass fragments, phosphorus dust and mercury and then wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel or disposable wet wipe. Place all cleanup materials in a plastic bag and seal it, then place in a second sealed plastic bag for placing in your garbage can. Finally, vacuum the area and dispose of the vacuum bag in the same manner – sealing in two plastic bags.

### Q: What should be done when the compact fluorescent bulb burns out?

Do not put the bulbs in your garbage or recycling carts. Most Orchard Supply Hardware and Home Depot stores will accept used fluorescent bulbs and will send them to a recycler; more sites can be found online at [www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org). Another disposal option is through the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off program. Call 299-7300 for an appointment.

*Making Santa Clara green, greener, greenest begins with you!*

## Now is the time to insulate attics

One of the smartest energy-saving moves you can make during the cold winter months is to install attic insulation, since warm air that you want to keep in your home escapes through the ceiling. Insulating the attic will save money on your monthly utility bill, and may qualify you to be reimbursed up to \$175 from the municipal Electric Utility/Silicon Valley Power's residential rebate program. Simply purchase and install insulation in at least 50 percent of your attic, download the rebate application from [www.siliconvalleypower.com/insulation](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com/insulation), and follow the easy instructions.



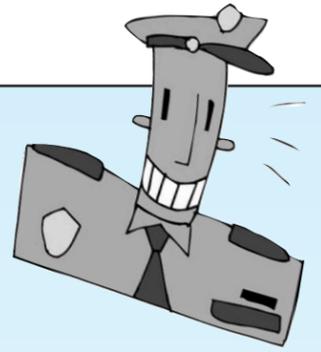
## 49ers proposed stadium

At this time, preliminary and non-binding negotiations are continuing with the 49ers, to clarify and document understandings and guarantees of all parties involved in the stadium project proposed to be placed on the parking lot of California's Great America.

Originally, the goal was to bring the results of the negotiations forward to the City Council in July, 2008. While much progress has been made, given the nature and complexity of the negotiations, both staff and the 49ers agreed that the July 2008 deadline could not be met, and additional time was needed to bring forward a completed Term Sheet for Council consideration and voter approval. At the June 17, 2008 City Council meeting, Council approved an extension of the negotiation period to February 1, 2009.

See details about the history of the proposal, the process being followed and the documents that have been considered, all found on the City's website at [http://santaclaraca.gov/city\\_gov/49er\\_stadium\\_proposal.html](http://santaclaraca.gov/city_gov/49er_stadium_proposal.html).

## CODE COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS



**Q** Every weekend, several signs are posted at the corner of my street. Some are for open houses and others are for garage sales. Are these signs legal?

**A** If the signs are posted on public property, including light standards or power poles, they are illegal. Stapling or nailing signs to power poles is not only illegal; it can present a hazard to workers that may need to service the pole. Signs also may not be placed on any public right-of-way including sidewalks.

The City of Santa Clara can remove signs posted on City property and hold them for at least 10 days while attempts are made to inform the owner of their location. The City may recover all the costs associated with the removal of the signs from the owner of the signs.

Signs posted on public property can be reported to the Street Department at 615-3080.

**Q** Is it legal to convert my garage to living space?

**A** For a variety of reasons, homeowners may be interested in converting their garage into living space. This conversion can be done legally if the City of Santa Clara Planning & Inspection Department grants approval prior to the conversion of the garage.

The intended use of a garage is primarily for the storage of vehicles, so the City must consider if the conversion conforms to City Codes and Ordinances to make sure the space will put the occupants at risk during a fire or other emergency. The City will also consider the impact the conversion might have on street parking and the requirement for covered parking.

The Planning & Inspection Department will review the plans of the proposed conversion. Depending on the designated use of the conversion, items required for garage conversions include heating and ventilation, insulation, light, emergency egress windows, structural framing, electrical and/or plumbing systems and the installation of smoke detectors. After issuance of the building permit for the conversion, a building inspector will perform inspections before the space can legally be occupied.

For more information, contact the Permit Center at 615-2420.

## ABANDONED SHOPPING CARTS



The best way to get abandoned shopping carts removed from your neighborhood is to contact the store to which the shopping cart belongs. Most stores hire a shopping cart retrieval service or use their own personnel to collect shopping carts that have been removed from store premises.

If shopping carts are unmarked or you are unable to contact a store representative, call the Street Department at 615-3080. The following is a list of store phone numbers that may be used as a quick reference guide.

Big Lots	3735 El Camino Real	247-0389
Lucky	3705 El Camino Real	247-5200
	234 Saratoga Avenue	296-0515
Kyo-Po Market	3379 El Camino Real	244-1234
Long's	2700 Homestead Road	247-7400
	222 Saratoga Avenue	247-4701
	3081 Stevens Creek Boulevard	243-7774
Office Max	2790 El Camino Real	261-7520
Rite Aid	2620 El Camino Real	241-0882
	3520 Homestead Road	249-7631
Safeway	2760 Homestead Road	248-0563
	3970 Rivermark Plaza	855-0980
	3071 Stevens Creek Boulevard	248-3305
	2605 The Alameda	244-6873
Save Mart	2610 El Camino Real	984-0419
	(Cart Service)	1-800-692-5710
Smart & Final	2065 El Camino Real	296-3293
Super Kyo-Po Foods	3521 Homestead Road	243-9005, Ext. 12
Walgreen's	2012 El Camino Real	246-6610
	200 N. Winchester Boulevard	247-1173



## Help meter readers keep your dog at home

Open gates are invitations for pets to run away and sometimes become permanently lost. If you find yourself the proud owner of a new puppy or dog this holiday season, please post a note on your gate to alert City meter readers so that it will not be left open. You may also call Customer Service at 615-2300 to have a note entered in your meter file.



## Keep fences out of public right-of-way

Property owners planning to add a fence or brick wall adjacent to a sidewalk should check with the City Engineering Department to make sure it is on their private property and not in the public right-of-way.

The back side of a sidewalk may, or may not, coincide with the property line. The property line can be several feet back from the sidewalk depending on the street the lot is located on. Placing a fence or wall on public right-of-way is prohibited unless specifically permitted.

For more information, call 615-3000.

## Congratulations, Steven Guthrie

Steven Guthrie, an 18-year resident of Santa Clara, won the drawing for a high-efficiency toilet at the Water & Sewer Utilities booth at the Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival in September. A high-efficiency toilet is estimated to save more than 1,800 gallons of water a year.

Similar toilets can be purchased through a rebate program of the Santa Clara Valley Water District that provides up to \$125 for the replacement of any toilet rated at 3.5 gallons per flush or greater, with a new high efficiency toilet from an approved list. Pre-approval from the Water District is required prior to purchase. There is a limit of three approved toilets per single family household. Call 1-877-874-8479 for pre-approval and more information.

## Thank you, Santa Clarans, for timely utility payments

The effort by Santa Clara residents and businesses to pay their utility bills in a timely manner is making a difference in saving the City time and money. Thank you, customers, for your prompt payments! Prompt payments help to maintain lower utility rates and better customer service, and the customer avoids a late charge. Santa Clara customers and the City both benefit.

The City Finance Department also asks that you keep your utility account contact information up to date, including your telephone number. Please remember that you can easily update your contact information by calling the Municipal Services Division at 615-2300.

Online utility bill payment has arrived! Save stamps and save time! You can now pay your Santa Clara Municipal Utilities bill online by credit card at [www.siliconvalleypower.com](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com).

## Recycle bottles and cans

Nearly every bottle and can has the chance for a new life. Recycling not only saves natural resources and energy that would be used to manufacture new ones, it can be financially beneficial for you.



Redeem your aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers for their CRV (California Refund Value) at a neighborhood recycling center, located in most shopping center parking lots and other locations throughout the City of Santa Clara.

Place bottles and cans in your gray curbside recycling bin for weekly collection. Recycling these containers through the curbside recycling program helps to keep the resident cost for the program low. Call the Street Department 615-3080 weekdays between the hours of 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to report scavengers going through your recycling bin. Call 615-5580 after hours and the Police Department will respond if not otherwise occupied with more urgent calls.

## Simple ways to reduce or reuse

Recycling has become part of everyday life at home and at work, but how can you “reduce” and “reuse” so there is less to recycle?

Reducing usage saves energy and natural resources. For example:

- 1) Reduce your use of paper cups and cardboard cup sleeves by bringing your own ceramic/glass/metal or plastic cup to the cafeteria, coffee shop or juice bar.
- 2) Reduce your use of paper and plastic bags by bringing your own reusable bags every time you go shopping. There are many sizes available, some that can be folded or rolled up for easy storage in the car, your purse, or attached to a belt. The City Store also sells reusable bags; see page 12 for more information.
- 3) Reduce your use of bottled water by drinking water from the tap or drinking fountains. Making bottles to meet America’s demand for bottled water requires more than 1.5 million barrels of oil annually—enough to fuel 100,000 cars for a year. It also takes 3 to 5 liters of water to produce a 1 liter bottle of water—so if you use a reusable container, you are not only saving energy but saving water.

Reusing materials also saves energy and natural resources because it delays the need to create new materials. For example:

- Reuse the paper or plastic cup you get at coffee shops or fast food restaurants throughout the day before tossing them away.
- Reuse plastic bags from buying fruits and vegetables at the grocery store.
- Reuse the blank sides of paper at home and at work for notes and scratch pads.

Reducing your carbon footprint means treading lightly on the environment and being cautious with the use of energy and natural resources. Reduce—reuse—recycle. It’s good for you and good for your planet.

*Making Santa Clara green, greener, greenest begins with you!*



### SANTA CLARA SENIOR CENTER SERVICES

**1303 Fremont Street**

**Phone: 408.615.3170**

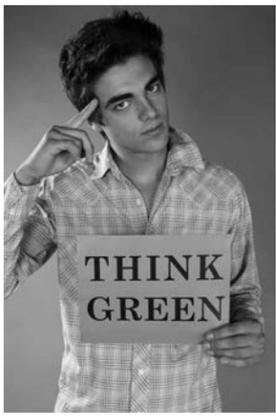
<b>❖ Attic Insulation</b>	Pre-set Income Criteria.	Call 408/971-0888
<b>❖ Blood Pressure</b>	Wed. 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Drop-in
	Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.	By appointment
<b>❖ BART Tickets</b>	Available at Senior Center	Cost: \$9.00 Value: \$24.00
<b>❖ VTA Bus Pass</b>	Picture taken at County Transit & Senior Center	\$20.00 Monthly Bus Sticker Sold at Senior Center
	<b>❖ Case Management</b>	Dawn Pollak
<b>❖ Fitness Room</b>	Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	
	Friday, 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	
<b>❖ Grab Bars/Ramps/Repairs</b>	Low-interest rate. For City of Santa Clara Homeowners	Call 408/615-2490
	<b>❖ Health Insurance Counseling/Medicare</b>	Barbara Purdy
<b>❖ Home Care Info./Referral Service</b>	Susan Bates	Donations Accepted
	Scheduled hrs.	Call 408/615-3170
<b>❖ Income Tax</b>	Scheduled Appointments	Free Service Call 408/615-3170
	<b>❖ Legal Assistance</b>	Age Limit: 60+
<b>❖ Notary Service</b>	Second Mondays	By appt. only Call 408/615-3170
	<b>❖ Nursing Assessment for Homebound</b>	Free Service by Appt.
<b>❖ Nursing Consultant</b>	Mon. through Fri.	Drop-in or appointments
	Mallory von Kugelgen, RN.	Call 408/615-3170
	Jodie Sugiyama, RNP.	Call 408/615-3170
<b>❖ Nutrition Program</b>	Donation \$2.00	Age Limit: 60+
	Two day advance reservations required	
	Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m.	Call 408/615-3174
<b>❖ Outreach</b>	Free Information Service.	Call 408/436-2865
<b>❖ Catholic Charities Housing</b>		Call 408/325-5277

**The Senior Center Office Hours are as follows:**

**Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. • Friday, 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Saturday\*, 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. • Sunday, Closed**

**\* Effective January 3, 2009, new Saturday hours will be 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**



# It's Green Season in Santa Clara

## The Twelve Days of Water Savings

Are you looking for "green" gift ideas or stocking stuffers for friends and family for the holiday season? The City of Santa Clara Water Utility would like to help you with some gift ideas that are not only fun and save money for the recipient, but can make the gift giver feel good about helping keep our creeks, green spaces, Bay and planet clean.

### One water wise house call

This free survey offers suggestions on ways to use water more efficiently both inside and outside the home. Call 800-548-1882 for more information or to set up an appointment. Past survey participants have lowered their water usage by an average of 30 gallons per day, or 11,000 gallons per year.

### Two water saving appliances

Clothes washers and dishwashers can be purchased through Santa Clara Valley Water District's Clothes Washer Rebate Program – 265-2607 ext. 2554 or [www.conservationrebates.com](http://www.conservationrebates.com). New water-efficient washing machines use about 40% less water and 70% less energy than older models. On average, a typical household will save 6,450 gallons of water, between \$80-100 in electricity, and \$54 in detergent costs on a yearly basis. Rebates range from \$125 to \$200.

### Three high efficiency toilets

Purchase them with a rebate of up to \$125 from the Santa Clara Valley Water District High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program. Call 265-2607 ext. 2554 or visit [www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org). A high efficiency toilet can reduce water usage by roughly 20%.

### Four toilet leak detection tablets

Free dye tablets – great for stocking stuffers — can help you tell if your toilet is leaking. Available at the Water Department. The average home in Santa Clara County wastes more than 14,000 gallons of water a year due to leaks, mostly from toilets.



### Five aerators

Screw-on devices limit flow from bathroom and kitchen sinks and are available for free at the Santa Clara City Hall Water Department.

### Six car wash certificates

Commercial car washes have recirculation systems to reuse water. These systems also help keep car cleaning products from soaking into the groundwater or going into the storm drain.

### Seven feet of tubing for a drip irrigation system

This will help get water directly to where it is needed, limiting runoff/evaporation. A weather-based controller would be a nice addition as well.

### Eight water-wise gardening books and magazines

Start the collection with three free publications available from the City of Santa Clara Water Department: "Water-Wise Gardening," "Rules of Thumb for Water-Wise Gardening," and "How to Water your Garden."

### Nine worms for composting

Add a book about composting to encourage the use of natural fertilizers over chemical products that can get into the ground water or end up in the storm drain.

### Ten pounds of mulch

Covering the ground around plants lowers wasteful evaporation. Mulch can save 750 to 1,500 gallons of water a month.



### Eleven square yards of pool cover material

Limit evaporation when your swimming pool is not in use. By using a pool cover, you can save 90 to 95% of the water that would otherwise be lost to evaporation.

### Twelve drought tolerant plants

Santa Clara County residents can receive up to \$1,000 by replacing high water using plants, such as turf grass, with low water using plants from an approved plant list or by installing permeable hardscape. Rebate amount depends on the square footage of high water using vegetation removed. Contact Water Wise Consulting at (866) 685-2322 to schedule a pre-inspection.

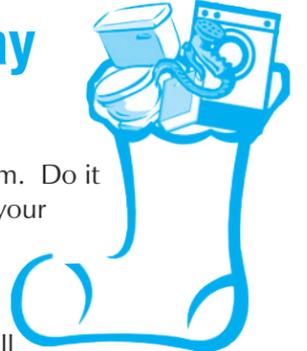
And don't forget that you can also sign up for the Electric Utility's Green Power program; call 244-SAVE (7283) or email [green@siliconvalleypower.com](mailto:green@siliconvalleypower.com). See page 13 for more information.

*Making Santa Clara green, greener, greenest begins with you!*

## Giving gifts the green way

Help Santa Clara be green, greener, greenest by considering one of these green gift ideas:

- Sign up for Santa Clara's Green Power program. Do it for your family. Do it for your friends. Do it for the environment. It costs as little as 25 cents per day for the average home. Call 244-SAVE (7283) for more information, or email [green@siliconvalleypower.com](mailto:green@siliconvalleypower.com).
- Give Energy Star power-efficient electronics such as audio and video equipment, speakers, TVs, cordless phones, computer equipment and compact fluorescent light bulbs. More gift ideas can be found at [www.siliconvalleypower.com/plugins](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com/plugins), and you can learn more about energy savings at [www.EnergyStar.gov](http://www.EnergyStar.gov).
- Present gifts that won't end up on the closet shelf – fresh produce or gourmet food items can be purchased at the Downtown Santa Clara Farmers Market, held every Saturday, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jackson Street between Benton and Homestead.



## Shop local to save gas, support local businesses, and show community pride!

Did you know that \$1 of sales tax on a \$100 purchase made in Santa Clara stays in Santa Clara to help pay for parks, street repair, library books, and the hundreds of other services provided to the public by municipal government?

The economy is struggling, and local businesses need the support of the community to continue to provide jobs, generate tax and fee income to the City, and supply the wide variety of goods and services the public wants and needs to have close by. Santa Clara is fortunate to have a wide variety of shops, restaurants, services, attractions, museums and performing arts in the community. Please remember to support local business by SHOPPING SANTA CLARA - - take advantage of great stores, dining and entertainment resources located here in our community, and encourage holiday guests to stay at Santa Clara hotels and motels.

### City Store

For unique gift ideas that showcase your pride in Santa Clara, visit the City Store at the Chamber of Commerce located at 1850 Warburton Ave., just down the street from City Hall.

Gift items include hats, sweatshirts, key chains, mugs, golf accessories, watches, note cubes and folios, magnets, lapel pins, umbrellas, denim caps, polo shirts and more.



You can also purchase reusable shopping bags, perfect for groceries or other types of shopping items. The bags are forest green and proudly carry the City of Santa Clara name. Be environmentally sensitive by using these bags as gift wrap instead of using wrapping paper—your family and friends will appreciate both gifts! The store also has a wide variety of other merchandise perfect for showing off your community pride.

**Through December 31st, buy certain items and get a second item at 25% off.**



## Green *(continued)*

### Recycle the holiday tree

The holiday season's final tradition is putting the tree out for curbside recycling. This year, trees will be picked up on your regular solid waste collection day during the week of January 5-9, 2009. Here's what to do:

Remove all ornaments, tinsel, nails, and the stand. **Flocked trees cannot be recycled**, so they will be collected and disposed of as garbage.

Place the stripped tree next to the garbage and Clean Green cart setouts at the curb on your regular collection day.

Holiday trees from small businesses and residents who miss the curbside collection may be dropped off at the southwest corner of the intersection of San Tomas Expressway and Monroe Streets. The drop-off will be available during the week of January 5-9, 2009, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. only.

Multi-family residents can set out their holiday trees on the nearest public street for pickup on the assigned single family home garbage/recycling collection days. Call 615-2063 to find out assigned garbage/recycling days in particular areas.

Trees may also be recycled after January 11 by cutting up the tree and placing the pieces in the Clean Green cart. For more information on holiday tree recycling, call 615-2063.

*Making Santa Clara green, greener, greenest begins with you!*



### Reduce and recycle holiday waste

Here are some eco-friendly holiday ideas to make this a Green Christmas

- ❖ Wrap gifts in comics, old maps or other colorful paper materials normally found around the home or office.
- ❖ Instead of wrapping gifts in paper, try presenting them in reusable containers like tin or plastic holiday boxes, gift bags or baskets. Save gift bags, boxes and bows for reuse.
- ❖ Or present your gifts in reusable bags that can become an ongoing gift to the environment. Canvas and other types of totes can be tied with festive ribbons. Reusable bags can also be purchased from the City Store; see the related article on page 12.
- ❖ Buy gift wrap that contains recycled paper. Avoid metallic-type wrapping papers that contain foil, Mylar or holographic materials, which are not recyclable.
- ❖ Recycle wrapping paper (except metallic, foil, Mylar or holographic) with mixed paper in the City's curbside recycling program.
- ❖ Make gift tags or ornaments from old greeting cards and wrapping materials
- ❖ Use cloth napkins, metal flatware, china plates and real glasses for "waste-less" holiday parties and meals.
- ❖ Purchase a manufactured tree that can be stored and reused each year.

*Making Santa Clara green, greener, greenest begins with you!*

### Too much holiday waste?

Even with the best reduce-reuse-recycle efforts, the holidays may still generate more trash than your garbage cart can handle. Santa Clara residents may set out as many as four additional 30-gallon plastic garbage bags (limit two bags per week) on their regular solid waste collection day from December 26, 2008 through January 7, 2009 at no extra charge!

Residential customers with front-load dumpsters are eligible to get one additional collection per year free of charge. Just call Mission Trail Waste Systems at 727-5365 to make an appointment for the extra collection.

At any other time during the year, residents of single family homes can set out additional 30-gallon plastic bags of garbage tied with "extra bag" tags purchased for \$3 each at the Utility Payment Counter in the Finance Department at City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave. Tags may also be ordered by mail. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a check (payable to "City of Santa Clara") to the Municipal Services Division, Finance Department, 1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050. Indicate the number of tags to be purchased and make the check payable for the exact amount of \$3 per tag. For more information, call 615-2063.

### Volunteer *(continued from page 8)*

citizenship, first awarded in 1991. She also was inducted into the Santa Clara Unified School District's Hall of Fame, which honors alumni who have brought extraordinary distinction to themselves, their profession and their communities.

Emma, who will turn 90 this December, continues to serve the Santa Clara community not only with care and compassion, but also with energy, enthusiasm, and optimism. She is also a "City Council-watcher," often attending meetings and sitting in the back of the room, keeping a sharp eye and keen mind focused on what is being accomplished. Her decades of volunteerism has made her a "one person chamber of commerce" for the City of Santa Clara. Emma likes to say, "If it's good for Santa Clara, I'm for it!" She is truly deserving of the "Those Who Inspire" community recognition award.

David Ladd Anderson, a long time music educator, was the inaugural "Those Who Inspire" award recipient in 2006.

### About Santa Clara's nonprofit partners

The City of Santa Clara contracts with a number of agencies for the provision of community services. The list provided here includes local nonprofit service agencies funded by either the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement program or the Redevelopment Agency Affordable Housing Fund program. The objective is to provide funding support to assist persons and households that are low income. The public services provided by these agencies are reviewed annually by the City for consideration of continued funding support.

**Local nonprofit agencies that partners with the City include:**

- ❑ Catholic Charities Shared Housing (shared housing services for families and single-parents with children); 325-5223
- ❑ Emergency Housing Consortium (transitional housing support services for homeless persons); 539-2100
- ❑ Bill Wilson Center (counseling for youth and families; grief counseling); 243-0222
- ❑ Next Door: Solutions to Domestic Violence (case management services for residents of Homesafe – Santa Clara); 501-7550
- ❑ Second Harvest Food Bank, Operation Brown Bag (provision of food staples to the needy); 266-8866
- ❑ Senior Adult Legal Services (SALA) (individual counseling on legal issues for seniors); 295-5991

For a complete list, see the City's website at:

[www.santaclaraca.gov/plan\\_inspection/hou\\_npp.html](http://www.santaclaraca.gov/plan_inspection/hou_npp.html).

# GREEN POWER

GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY  
GOOD FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

SANTA CLARA GREEN POWER

- Low-cost, 100% renewable energy
- Clean wind and solar power
- Support for new solar facilities
- Environmental stewardship

Join Santa Clara Green Power.

[www.siliconvalleypower.com](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com)

(408) 244-SAVE (7283)






### **POLICE OFFICER & RECRUIT POLICE OFFICER:**

Police Officer monthly salary range is \$7,741 - \$9,877. Recruit Police Officer monthly salary starts at \$5,867. Both positions require one of the following: Without experience, applicants must have completed sixty (60) semester units or ninety (90) quarter units of academic level course work at an accredited college or university; or applicants with two (2) years full-time, paid, recent police experience with a sheriff's department, state police, highway patrol, or municipal police department must have completed thirty (30) semester units or forty-five (45) quarter units of academic level courses at an accredited college or university. Applicants for Police Officer also require proof of completion of a Basic Peace Officer Academy certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis for both positions; file by September 2, 2008 for the September 20, 2008 written examination.

Please submit City application to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCHER I:**

Communications Dispatcher I monthly salary range is \$5,343 - \$6,478. Requires graduation from high school or possession of a GED and one year of paid employment experience requiring independent decision-making and a high level of public contact, preferably a public safety related position. Possession of a current P.O.S.T. Basic Dispatch certificate is desirable and may be substituted for six (6) months of the employment experience. Possession of a P.O.S.T. Basic Dispatch certificate and a Medical Priorities Dispatching System (MPDS) certificate is required prior to completion of the probationary period. A typing certificate, dated no earlier than 6 months prior to application filing, showing the required typing speed of 30 net words per minute, is required at time of application. Candidates who have taken the POST dispatcher examination within the last six months may submit verification of a t-score of 48 or better in lieu of taking the performance examination. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Please submit City application and typing certificate to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCHER II:**

Communications Dispatcher II monthly salary range is: \$5,740 - \$6,971. Requires graduation from high school or possession of a GED; and the equivalent of one of the following: (a) two years of paid employment experience in public safety dispatching within the past five years; or (b) five years of current paid employment with a public safety agency or private emergency medical services agency, with high level Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), radio and/or telephone operation; or (c) successful completion of a probationary period as a Communications Dispatcher I with the City of Santa Clara. Possession of a current P.O.S.T. Basic Dispatch certificate is desirable and may be substituted for six months of the employment experience. Classroom education involving fire science or law enforcement related studies is highly desirable. A

## **Employment Opportunities**

typing certificate, dated no earlier than 6 months prior to application filing, showing the required typing speed of 30 net words per minute, is required at time of application. Candidates who have taken the POST dispatcher examination within the last six months may submit verification of a t-score of 48 or better in lieu of taking the performance examination. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Please submit City application and typing certificate to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **ELECTRIC UTILITY GENERATION TECHNICIAN:**

Electric Utility Generation Technician monthly salary range is \$6,946 - \$8,455. Requires graduation from high school or its equivalent and four (4) years of electric generation operation and maintenance experience in a medium-sized electric generation power plant or equivalent, including two (2) years of experience above the entry level. Three years of operations and maintenance level experience above the entry level with work assignments in City of Santa Clara combined cycle generation facilities may substitute for the above experience requirements. Two (2) additional years of electric generation operation and maintenance experience with an electric generation power plant or the equivalent is highly desirable. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis; examinations are scheduled as a sufficient number of applications are received.

Please submit City application to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **ELECTRICIAN:**

Electrician monthly salary range is \$6,455 - \$7,837. Requires graduation from high school or its equivalent and status as a journey-level electrician and/or completion of a formal electrician apprenticeship program. Certification of required journey level electrician status and/or completion of a formal electrician apprenticeship program must be provided. Journey level experience working for an electric utility maintaining high voltage substation equipment or journey level experience maintaining solid state traffic signal equipment, or solid state supervisory control systems is desirable. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Please submit City application and electrician certification to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **JOURNEY LINEMAN:**

Journey Lineman monthly salary range is \$6,455 - \$7,837. Requires graduation from high school or possession of a G.E.D.; and completion of a recognized three (3) year apprenticeship program as a Lineman. Certification of apprenticeship program must be provided at time of application. Possession of a valid California Class A Driver's license is required, or possession of a valid Class C license at the time of employment and the ability to obtain Class A within six months of employment. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Please apply by formal application to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

### **POLICE RECORDS SPECIALIST II:**

Police Records Specialist II monthly salary range is \$4,956 - \$6,037. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Requires graduation from high school or its equivalent; and two years of clerical and typing experience. College education with special emphasis in police administration or related fields may be substituted for the required work experience on a year-for-year basis. A typing certificate, dated no earlier than 6 months prior to application filing, showing the required typing speed of 50 net words per minute, is required at time of application. Possession of an appropriate, valid California driver's license is required at time of appointment. A background investigation will be conducted prior to appointment. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis; examinations are conducted as vacancies occur.

Please submit City application and typing certificate to the Human Resources Dept., 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, or FAX 247-5627.

For additional job opportunities available at the City of Santa Clara, please visit our website at [www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov) or call our Job Hotline at 615-JOBS. EOE.

## **Alarm users must register with Police Department**

Alarm registration is required in the City of Santa Clara for commercial and residential alarm systems already installed and new installations.

Registration is also required if a company or resident takes over control of an existing alarm that was previously controlled by another alarm user. This includes systems that are monitored by an alarm company as well as those that are not.

The purpose of alarm registration with the Santa Clara Police Department is to ensure accurate, up-to-date information that facilitates police response to the alarmed location. It is separate from the information the alarm user may have already provided to the alarm monitoring company.

For more information or to obtain an alarm user application contact Community Service Officer Thomas at 615-4871 at the Santa Clara Police Department or visit the website [www.scpd.org](http://www.scpd.org).





# SANTA CLARA ARTS & HISTORICAL CONSORTIUM

## Santa Clara Museums



### Triton Museum of Art

The Triton Museum of Art exists to enhance the quality of lives of people in Santa Clara and the Bay Area through a program of art, education, and community involvement. Rotating exhibits highlight the museum's permanent collection of 19th and 20th century American art. *Native Americans Yesterday and Today: Selections from the Austen D. Warburton Collection*, is a permanent exhibition. The museum buildings are owned by the City, but are operated by the nonprofit Triton Museum of Art. The museum is located at 1505 Warburton Ave., across the street from City Hall. The Museum is open daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays until 9 p.m. Admission and parking are free. For further information, call 247-3754, or visit the Triton website at [www.tritonmuseum.org](http://www.tritonmuseum.org).



### de Saisset Museum

Founded in 1955 through the bequest of Isabel de Saisset, the museum features rotating exhibits as well as permanent displays of art. The museum's collection includes American, European, African and Oriental art. The *California Historic Collection* features artifacts of the pre-mission California Indians, relics and sacramental objects from the original mission, and memorabilia from the days of the early college. The de Saisset also has an ongoing program of films, concerts and lectures. The museum is located on the Santa Clara University campus, adjacent to historic Mission Santa Clara. Admission and parking are free. Galleries are open Tuesday through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 554-4528, or visit the de Saisset website at [www.scu.edu/deSaisset](http://www.scu.edu/deSaisset).



### Headen-Inman House

The charming Headen-Inman House, 1509 Warburton Ave., includes a museum with photographs and artifacts related to the history of Santa Clara. Rotating exhibits by the Santa Clara Art Association are also on display. The Santa Clara Founders and Pioneers Room has exhibits featuring the founding families and early pioneers of Santa Clara County. The house, named after the two families who once owned it, is now owned by the City, but is operated by and is the headquarters of the nonprofit Santa Clara Arts & Historical Consortium. The museum is open most Sundays, from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free. For further information, call 248-ARTS.



### Berryessa Adobe

In the 1840s, this simple adobe dwelling was constructed about a mile west of Mission Santa Clara. The house was lived in by generations of families who immigrated to Santa Clara to labor in



**Pictured top to bottom, above :**

- Triton Museum of Art
- de Saisset Museum
- Headen-Inman House
- Berryessa Adobe South
- Bay Historical Railroad Society
- Harris-Lass House
- Santa Clara Woman's Club Adobe

the fields and factories, and to make new lives for themselves. Purchased by the City of Santa Clara in 1997 and restored in 2002, the Berryessa Adobe is one of the last adobes in the Santa Clara Valley, and is an interpretive site on the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. It is located at 373 Jefferson Street and generally open Thursdays and Saturdays, 12 noon to 4 p.m., or by arrangement. Group tours may also be arranged. For more information, call 615-2488 or email: [BerryessaAdobe@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:BerryessaAdobe@santaclaraca.gov).

### South Bay Historical Railroad Society

The South Bay Historical Railroad Society was founded in 1985 with the goal of preserving the heritage of American railroading. SBHRS accomplished the major task of renovating the historic Santa Clara Depot, and maintains the facility and researches its history. The group also built and maintains onsite HO and N scale museum-grade model train layouts. The Santa Clara Depot, at the Santa Clara Caltrain Station, is regularly open to the public every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m., at 1005 Railroad Ave. Call 243-3969 for further information, or visit the website at [www.sbhirs.org](http://www.sbhirs.org).

### Harris-Lass Historic Museum

The Harris-Lass Historic Museum, located at 1889 Market St., is the last preserved farm site in the City of Santa Clara. The property, which includes a large fully furnished Italianate-style home, barn, summer kitchen and a tank house, is named for the two families who owned it and lived there for 125 years. The museum is now owned by the City, but is operated by the nonprofit Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara, and staffed entirely by volunteers. Guided tours aid visitors in learning about local history and life in the early 1900s. Museum hours are most Saturdays and Sundays, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors. Parking is free. For details about visiting the museum, call 249-7905.

### Santa Clara Woman's Club Adobe

The Santa Clara Woman's Club Adobe, located at 3260 The Alameda, is a State-registered landmark and one of the oldest surviving adobe structures in northern California. With its origins dating to 1784, the Pena adobe was originally part of a row of houses for married Indian couples. The Santa Clara Woman's Club now uses the adobe as its club headquarters and meeting place. The Woman's Club provides encouragement and support for youth in Santa Clara, and cooperates with other organizations to aid seniors, veterans and the handicapped. Call 246-8000 for more information.

## Other Consortium Member Groups

### Foothills Region Antique Automobile Club of America

Interested in the preservation of cars that are 25 years old or older, the members of this club tour with their cars and take part in parades and many other family oriented activities. For more information, call Club Vice President Grant Danielson, 248-0939.

### Los Fundadores y Amigos de Alta California, the Founders and Friends of Santa Clara County

The goals of Los Fundadores are to preserve the history and heritage of Santa Clara County and early California, to maintain a museum room in the Headen-Inman House, to provide rotating genealogical displays, and to develop research materials for the library room at the museum. The group was established in 1987 by Evalyn Martinez. It publishes a quarterly newsletter aimed at preserving the history and heritage of the founding families and early pioneers of Santa Clara County from its founding through 1889. For more information, call Evalyn Martinez at 926-1165.

### Santa Clara Players

The Santa Clara Players is a talented local theater group that performs in the 80-seat Hall Pavilion of the Triton Museum of Art. Its season runs from October through June and includes three public productions plus one-act plays that can be performed for groups by special arrangement. Call 248-7993 for more information or visit [www.scplayers.org](http://www.scplayers.org).

### Santa Clara Sister Cities Association

Individuals interested in promoting an appreciation for the world and its diverse cultures are invited to join the Santa Clara Sister Cities Association (SCA). Membership is open to both residents of Santa Clara and non-residents. SCA works closely with the City's International Exchange Commission which coordinates exchange programs with Santa Clara's two sister-cities: Coimbra, Portugal and Izumo, Japan. The group meets four or five times during the year at the Senior Citizens Center in Santa Clara. For more information on the Santa Clara Sister Cities Association, or opportunities to host visitors, contact SCA President Debi Davis at 244-7551 or see the website at [www.santaclarasistercities.org](http://www.santaclarasistercities.org).

### Santa Clara Valley Porcelain Artists

Santa Clara Valley Porcelain Artists is dedicated to studying, teaching and promoting the art of china, glass and porcelain painting. Activities include monthly meetings/luncheons, workshops/seminars, demonstrations, porcelain exchange, and community involvement. For more information, call Arline Norsworthy at 296-8319.

### Consortium Member Groups include:

City of Santa Clara - Berryessa Adobe\*  
 de Saisset Museum\*  
 Foothills Region AACA  
 Garden City Doll Club  
 Heart of the Valley\*  
 Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara  
 KKUP Radio  
 Los Fundadores, Founders and Friends of Santa Clara Co.  
 Mission City Opera  
 Mission Trail Early Ford V-8 Club  
 Primarily Purses/Vintage Accessories Club  
 Roberta Jones Junior Theatre\*  
 Santa Clara Art Association  
 Santa Clara City Library\*  
 Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society\*  
 Santa Clara Players  
 Santa Clara Sister Cities Association  
 Santa Clara Schools Foundation\*  
 Santa Clara Valley Porcelain Artists  
 Santa Clara Woman's Club\*  
 Soroptimist International of Santa Clara\*  
 South Bay Historical Railroad Society\*  
 Spanish Heritage Society  
 Tabard Theater\*  
 Triton Museum of Art\*  
 The Twenty Diners Plus

For more information on the Consortium or information on any of the groups listed above, call 248-ARTS.

\*Affiliate Members

# Apply now for 2009 Leadership Santa Clara program



Applications are now being accepted for Leadership Santa Clara 2009, a six-month course beginning in January that prepares individuals interested in becoming community leaders.

Sessions are generally held on the second Thursday of each month from February through June, with two additional sessions in January and an evening graduation ceremony/reception in mid-June. Classes are held at a variety of Santa Clara business locations, offering students an opportunity to visit a range of local organizations. Class sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m.

Top-notch speakers cover a wide range of topics including governance, business climate, transportation, media, diversity, arts and culture, environment, volunteerism, health care and human/community services. Full days are devoted to public safety and education. Skill-building sessions focus on working with the media, public presentation skills, team building, meeting management, and ethics.

Tuition is \$750, and students may have up to 90% of their tuition covered by their employer. Scholarships are also available.

For more information, call Leadership Santa Clara Program Coordinator Scott Summerfield at (925) 249-9320, email him at [smmrfltd@aol.com](mailto:smmrfltd@aol.com), or contact the City Manager's Office at 615-2210.

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OF SANTA CLARA  
RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES  
WINTER 2008

## Register for winter and spring recreation programs



January is always a good time of year to start something new! The Parks & Recreation Department provides a wide variety of fun and healthy activities, ranging from creative arts, music, dance, and theater, to fitness, sports, and cooking. Activities for all ages included in the winter/spring issue of the *City of Santa Clara Recreation Activities Guide*, plus special events such as Showtime, the Camellia Show, an annual Easter Egg Hunt in Central Park, and the Fish Derby at Civic Center Plaza.

Classes begin the week of January 26 and activity guides will be mailed to residents of Santa Clara beginning on Dec. 17. You can also pick up a copy at the Community Recreation Center, Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, Teen Center, Santa Clara Senior Center, City Hall, Central Park Library, and Mission Library Family Reading Center beginning Dec. 18. The guide will also be posted online at [www.santaclaraca.gov](http://www.santaclaraca.gov)

Residents can register as early as Dec. 30, by using our online or automated phone systems. Beginning Jan. 13, residents can register in person at the Community Recreation Center, Teen Center, or Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center. Refer to the *City of Santa Clara Recreation Activities Guide* for detailed registration information, or call the Community Recreation Center at 615-3140.

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## Students can apply for scholarships and technical grants to study energy, power

Students who are interested in careers related to energy services and the power industry are invited to apply for a \$5,000 scholarship or a \$2,000 technical grant. Deadline for applications is Friday, March 20, 2009.

The financial awards are sponsored by Silicon Valley Power, the City of Santa Clara's municipal Electric Utility, to help assure an educated workforce to

(continued on page 8)